AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BALLU): (a) to (c) During the last three Years i.e. 1993-94 to 1995-96 7 retail outlet dealerships each in Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka were allotted by the Government under discretionary powers. No retail Qutlet dealership was allotted in Kerala. Out of the above, 3 dealerships in Madhya Pradesh are yet to be commissioned. The delay in commissioning has been mainly owing to the problem faced by the allottees in obtaining suitable land site, and in one case because of court's stay.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Waiting List for LPG Agencies and Connections in Rajasthan

2137. SHRI RAMDAS AGGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for LPG agencies in the waiting list at present in Rajasthan;

(b) the number of LPG agencies allotted till date and the number of LPG agencies still to be allotted;

(c) the number of consumers, district-wise;

(d) the number of waiting list of LPG consumers till date, district-wise;

(e) by when the waiting list of consumers would be cleared;

(f) whether there is an acute shortage/ supply of LPG cylinders in Rajasthan; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The details are as under:

	(As on 1.10.1996)		
Wating list	Agencies allotted	Agencies still to be allotted	No. of consumers
7.26 lakhs	222	60	9.60

(c) New LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country including Rajasthan, depending upon the availability of LPG new customer enrolment plan, waiting list, slack available with the distributors of the area and their viability. LPG is not an allocated product and no advance allocation is made. All the people in the waiting list in the country are likely to be provided with LPG connections in the next four/five years.

(f) and (g) The demand of the existing consumers of LPG in the country including Rajasthan, who are enrolled with the distributors of public sector oil companies is, by and large, being met in full at present. Temporary backlogs that may arise are cleared by augmenting LPG supplies through operation of bottling plants for extended hours and on holidays and by arranging supplies from bottling plants in adjoining areas. Temporary shortage, experienced in Sept.,Oct., 1996 has been generally overcome in different markets.

Employment to Rural Youths

2138. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMETN be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons unemployed in rural areas in the country during the last five years, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons in rural areas provided employment through various central schemes during each of last five years, State-wise; and

(c) the target fixed for providing employment through Central schemes during 1996-97, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yearwise and Statewise estimates of unemployed persons in rural areas in the country are not available. However, the comparative rates of unemployment revealed by NSSO rounds conducted during 1987-88 and 1993-94 in Rural Areas, according to different approaches of measurement are as under:—

*Unemployment rate in Rural Areas

	1987-88	1993-94
(i) Usual Principal Status	3.07	1.80
(ii) Usual Principal & Subsidiary status	1.98	1.20
(iii) Current Weekly Status	4.19	3.00
(iv) Current Daily Status	5.25	5.63

*Unemployed as percentage of labour force.

(b) and (c): The number of persons/ families provided employment during 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96 through major employment programmes viz. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) undertaken by the Ministry all over the country including the targets fixed during 1996-97 (except in case of EAS and IRDP where no physical targets are fixed are given in Annexures I to III *[See Appendix 179, Annexure No. 46]*

Single-point light connections in Bihar

2139. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the budgetary provisions made for providing single point light connections under Kutir Jyoti Programme in Bihar during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) how many single point light connections were provided under the programme in the State during the said period, year-wise and district-wise;

(c) whether the allocation for the State for 1996-97 has been finalised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) Details of Kutir Jyoti grant provided and connections released during the past three years in the State of Bihar are as under:

Year	Allocation (Rs. in Lakhs)	Connection released (No.)
1993-94	2.196	5944
1994-95	87.280	21820
1995-96	87.280	15410
TOTAL	176.756	43174

District-wise details of connections released are given in statement.

(c) and (d) A target of 5000 Kutir Jyoti connections has been tentatively allocated to Bihar State for 1996-97 with a grant provision of Rs. 20 lakhs.